

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION to make March 30th "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day."

**BOOTS, DELPH, PAUL,
LANDSKE**

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



Introduced

First Regular Session 116th General Assembly (2009)

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. _____

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION to make March 30th "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day."

Whereas, The Vietnam War was fought in Vietnam from 1961 to 1975, and involved North Vietnam and the Viet Cong in conflict with the United States Armed Forces and South Vietnam;

Whereas, The United States became involved in Vietnam because policy-makers in the United States believed that if South Vietnam fell to a Communist government then Communism would spread throughout the rest of Southeast Asia;

Whereas, Members of the United States Armed Forces began serving in an advisory role to the South Vietnamese in 1961;

Whereas, As a result of the Gulf of Tonkin incidents on August 2 and 4, 1964, Congress overwhelmingly passed the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution (Public Law 88-408), on August 7, 1964, which effectively handed over war-making powers to President Johnson until such time as "peace and security" had returned to Vietnam;

Whereas, In 1965, United States Armed Forces ground combat units arrived in Vietnam;

2009

RC 1591/DI MC+



Whereas, By the end of 1965, there were 80,000 United States troops in Vietnam, and by 1969 a peak of approximately 543,000 troops was reached;

Whereas, On January 27, 1973, the Treaty of Paris was signed, which required the release of all United States prisoners-of-war held in North Vietnam and the withdrawal of all United States Armed Forces from South Vietnam;

Whereas, On March 30, 1973, the United States Armed Forces completed the withdrawal of combat troops from Vietnam;

Whereas, More than 58,000 members of the United States Armed Forces lost their lives in Vietnam and more than 300,000 members of the Armed Forces were wounded;

Whereas, In 1982, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial was dedicated in the District of Columbia to commemorate those members of the United States Armed Forces who died or were declared missing-in-action in Vietnam;

Whereas, The Vietnam War was an extremely divisive issue among the people of the United States;

Whereas, Members of the United States Armed Forces who served bravely and faithfully for the United States during the Vietnam War were caught upon their return home in the crossfire of public debate about the involvement of the United States in the Vietnam War;

Whereas, The establishment of a "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" would be an appropriate way to honor those members of the United States Armed Forces who served in Vietnam during the Vietnam War; and

*Whereas, March 30, 2009, would be an appropriate day to establish as "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day":
Therefore,*



*Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly
of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:*

- 1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly honors and
2 recognizes the contributions of veterans of the armed Forces who
3 served in Vietnam, and encourages the residents of Indiana to observe
4 "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" with appropriate ceremonies
5 and activities that promote awareness of the contributions of veterans
6 who served in Vietnam and the importance of helping Vietnam era
7 veterans re-adjust to civilian life.
8 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to
9 transmit a copy of this Resolution to Welcome Home Veteran's Day,
10 Inc., the State of Indiana Veterans of Foreign Wars and the National
11 Headquarters of the American Legion.

